State of Michigan Programs Q&A (2007 High School Counselor Video Conference)
Office of Scholarships and Grants
[Questions in bold.]

# **Michigan Promise Scholarship**

How can a Michigan resident who passes the MME use their award if they attend an out-of-state college? Can they use it as an in-state community college award i.e. summer school?

Beginning with the class of 2007 students can no longer take their award out-of-state. If a student is eligible for installment payments and attends a Michigan college during the summer following their freshman and sophomore years they would be eligible for up to \$1,000. The student must be enrolled in courses leading to his/her degree at the out-of-state institution. Students must certify their scholarship by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they choose to use it.

Can students use the Michigan Promise money for summer terms if the return in the summer and attend a Michigan school?

Yes, as long as the student is eligible for installment payments and the student is enrolled in courses leading to his/her degree at the out-of-state institution. Students must certify their scholarship by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they choose to use it.

A student successfully passed the MME and qualifies for the Michigan Promise scholarship, but he will attend an out-of-state college during the regular school year (August to May). Would it be possible for this student to use his Michigan Promise Scholarship at a Michigan college during the summer sessions?

Yes, as long as the student is eligible for installment payments and the student is enrolled in courses leading to his/her degree at the out-of-state institution. Students must certify their scholarship by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they choose to use it.

(This is a question on behalf a parent) In the past their children have attended the University of Dayton and then they would take classes at Jackson Community College during the summer. At the end of the summer term, the community college would give the student the remainder of that year's (MEAP) money in cash. Will the MME do the same?

The student must be enrolled in courses leading to his/her degree at the out-of state institution. Any remaining funds not used for tuition can be refunded to the student as long as the student had other educational expenses associated with the summer course work. Students must certify their scholarship by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they choose to use it.

What happens if a student is eligible for the Michigan Promise, but waits a year to go to college? How do they access funds for the 2009-2010 school year?

Students have two years to initiate enrollment in college. When the student certifies his/her award they will select one of two years for payment to begin. For example a student from the class of 2007 can select a payment year of 2007-08 or 2008-09 when certifying. Students must certify their scholarship by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they choose to use it.

When students complete their two year academic requirement or 50 percent of their Bachelor's Degree, what documentation is required to reserve the balance of their scholarship money? Where will they obtain this application?

The student must then complete the application for Final Payment by November 15<sup>th</sup> of the academic year in which they want to receive final payment. The form is available on the www/Michigan.govPromise Web site.

If a student gets two years successful completion of community college, does the \$4,000 just come to them in a lump sum check – if that's all the college they are going to do? Can the installments be used for non-tuition items?

Once all eligibility requirements are met the state will send the \$4,000 to the college that the student indicates on the application for final payment. The college will then issue a check to the student minus any outstanding balance the student owes the college. The installment payment can be used for any educational expense.

If a student takes three years (instead of two) to get an associate's degree, two-year certificate, etc., can they still get the \$4,000 (or balance of \$2,000)?

Students must initiate enrollment within two (2) years of high school graduation and have four (4) from initiation to complete the requirements.

Regarding the Michigan Promise scholarship: do payments go to the student or to the college?

All payments are sent to the college.

We have two South Korean students who are attending high school with student visas and will continue through college. Do they take the MME?

Only Michigan residents are allowed to take the MME.

Is any part of the Promise scholarship able to be used out-of-state? No.

We have a student who is not a U.S. citizen. She lives within our district with her aunt who is her guardian. She has lived here since 5<sup>th</sup> grade. Is she eligible for the Promise scholarship? She/guardian are (still) awaiting her "papers."

She is eligible to take the MME as long as she is a Michigan resident and if she is allowed to take the MME she would be eligible for a Promise scholarship.

If a senior student (2008) did not use the voucher for the October 27<sup>th</sup> MME can they retest in March?

Contact the Office of Educational Assessment and Accountability (OEAA) at 1-877-560-8378 for information regarding retesting.

When will the Michigan Promise scholarship fact sheet be available for the 2008-2009 ('08 graduates) academic year? ('07-'08 talks about MEAP not MME)

Students from the class of 2008 received the 2008-09 Fact Sheet with their letters. The Fact Sheet can also be found on our Web site at www.michigan.gov/promise.

If a student takes the ACT again after the MME, do you take the higher of the two scores for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship or do you just keep the one from the MME?

The higher score for the Michigan Competitive Scholarship.

What are the cut scores/qualifying score(s) on the MME to qualify for the Michigan Promise scholarship (what ACT score makes a 1 or 2)?

Students must achieve a level 1 or 2 to be eligible for installment payments. All students who take the entire MME are eligible for the Michigan Promise scholarship. The scores are derived from the combination of ACT, WorkKeys and the Michigan components.

If a student receives 1's or 2's on the MME, do they need to have a 2.5 GPA to receive money – last two years of college?

All students are required to have a cumulative GPA of at least 2.5 in order to receive a final payment.

If the students qualify for the installments for the Michigan Promise scholarship, do they need to maintain a certain GPA to get any of the installments?

The GPA requirement is needed for final payment only.

When will the Michigan Promise money be dispensed this fall to the colleges?

The state began processing payments as soon as a budget was agreed upon. Payments are made monthly from October through August.

Do middle school students still receive scholarship funds for their performance on the MEAP tests? If so, how are the students notified and when? How much?

No. The class of 2005 and 2006 were the only classes eligible for the middle school award.

Why can't students receive both the Michigan Tuition Grant and the Michigan Competitive Scholarship? Why is it one or the other?

The law stipulates that students cannot receive both however; students eligible for a Michigan Competitive Scholarship (MCS) and attending a private non-profit institution are eligible for an MCS supplemental of up to the maximum of the MTG award.

Do you have any idea what MME scores will be used for Michigan – Yes Reports and for AYD? And the importance of (a) student retaking to improve the school's Michigan-Yes grade?

Contact the OEAA regarding Yes Reports and AYP at 1-877-560-8378.

## Michigan Nursing Scholarship

How/where do students apply for the Michigan Nursing Scholarship?

Students must contact the financial aid office at the school he/she is attending.

### **ACT score**

Regarding the ACT score – English, math, reading, science and the writing score gets added in?

For MCS students must have an ACT score that totals 90 or above, which is the combined scores of reading, writing, math and science.

#### **MISO system**

Will students be able to go on the MISO system and be able to correct the OSG information so that counselors do not have to correct SSN?

No. Students are allowed to correct demographic data only. Students should contact the Office of Scholarships and Grants (OSG) at 1-888-447-2687 to correct an SSN.

## What is the Web address for the Michigan Online Scholarship system?

The Web site is <a href="www.michigan.gov/osg">www.michigan.gov/osg</a> and click on the Quick Link "MI Scholarships Online".

### Byrd Scholarship

Will there be a single MME score used for the Byrd Scholarship or will we have to have scores from each area?

The nomination form for the class of 2008 uses the sum of the four scores (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies).

When using the MME scores for the Robert Byrd Scholarship will we use the student's best score on the MME? Or, will we just use the scores from the spring test?

You can use the student's best scores.

Why are home schooled students no longer eligible for the Robert C. Byrd Scholarship?

Federal regulations now prohibit home schooled students from applying.

## **TIP**

How can a counselor help a student check to see if he/she is eligible for TIP?

By contacting the OSG at 1-888-447-2687 and asking one of our representatives to look up the student's record.

Is the roster of TIP students that a high school receives a list of students who are eligible or a list of students who are eligible and have returned their application?

Students who are eligible and have returned their application to the OSG.

#### **GEAR UP scholarship**

What is the process for students who have qualified for the GEAR UP scholarship to receive these funds once they attend college?

Colleges receive an Enrollment Verification Roster (EVR) where they indicate that the student is attending their college. Once that roster is returned to the OSG payment is sent to the college on behalf of the student.

### **Letters sent to students**

Is it possible for the state to send a sample or duplicate letter to the high school counselors? We don't always see the letters that students receive.

OSG does not have a list serve that allows us to efficiently communicate with high schools. What we purpose to do is to create a bulletin board on our Web site in order to post these letters for your review. This should be available soon. The OSG will notify schools when this is available.

#### **Certificates**

In the future, would it please be possible to mail the certificates to students <u>after</u> they've taken the fall retest of MME (rather than in September)?

The certificates were part of a special initiative of the Governor's office. It is unclear if certificates will be sent to future class years. We can certainly suggest a different timeframe for certificates if they are mailed again.